

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC ART COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 2008  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL  
2263 SANTA CLARA AVENUE – 7:00 PM**

CONVENE: 7:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Vice Chair Lee, Commissioners Rosenberg and Wolfe

ABSENT: Vice Chair Lee read Chair Huston's resignation letter into the record

STAFF PRESENT: Jon Biggs, Planning Services Manager/Secretary to the Public Art Commission; Tony Ebster, Intermediate Clerk/Recording Secretary

MINUTES:

Minutes for the meeting of January 9, 2008  
Motion (Rosenberg)/Second (Wolfe) to approve minutes as amended  
Ayes: 3; Noes: 0. Motion passed unanimously

ORAL COMMUNICATION:

Ms. Debra Owen thanked the Commission for meeting diligently. She asked about the procedure for being more proactive in supporting developers with their public art requirements.

REGULAR AGENDA:

(4-A) Election of Chair and, if necessary, Vice Chair.

Motion (Rosenberg)/Second (Wolfe) to table the item until vacancies on the Commission have been filled.  
Ayes: 3; Noes:0. Motion passes unanimously

(4-B) Review the draft of changes to Chapter 30-65 of the Public Art Ordinance.

Mr. Biggs noted the agenda report included in the packet and the changes that the report outlined.

Commissioner Lee asked who the "public" would be if a public meeting were to be held to discuss the issue of the cap.

Commissioner Wolfe suggested prioritizing a charette to discuss the cap issue and feels that it is high on the priority list.

Mr. Biggs stated that the Commission needed to develop language to address the phasing of larger projects. He read his suggested language.

The Commission considered the language and indicated that it was along the lines of what they had in mind.

The Commission also discussed in-lieu fee contributions and the proposed change to the Public Art Ordinance, which was the elimination of a cap of \$150,000, and other methods of calculating public art contributions.

Motion (Rosenberg)/Second (Wolfe) for staff to research what other cities required developers to spend on public art and what percentage of in-lieu fees is spent on administration.

Ayes: 3; Noes:0

Motion passed unanimously

(4-C) Discussion on the development of procedures to recommend the acquisition or purchase of public art to the City Council.

Mr. Biggs began the discussion by reading the staff report.

The Commission noted that many of the points in the report are already in the guidelines for the acquisition and purchase of public art.

Commissioner Lee pointed out that all of their conversations come back to the need for a web resource.

The Commission had questions about how to generate and distribute proposals for future art projects.

The Commission made suggestions including the possible creation of a map of art that is currently in place and potential locations for future art.

Mr. Biggs asked if the Commission could generate a list of where public art is in Alameda.

A photographic inventory of public art in Alameda was also suggested.

Ms. Owen told the Commission that they have a resource of about 50-100 photographers available to help with the project. She suggested a challenge or a scavenger hunt to get all the art documented or having a call to the public for people to help out.

Motion (Rosenberg)/Second (Wolfe) to give the Commission a homework assignment to document and photograph the art and where it is located in Alameda.

Ayes: 3; Noes: 0. Motion passed unanimously

The Commission then talked about how diversity and variety is necessary with public art.

It was also suggested that the Commission should be open to other funding sources and opportunities.

Ms. Owen mentioned that there is a photo exhibit coming up and would like the opportunity to show some of the pieces at City Hall.

Commissioner Rosenberg pointed out that it is not very easy to display works on the walls at City Hall due to security issues.

It was suggested to look into purchasing cases for art with the in-lieu money for display purposes.

(4-D) Discussion on enforcement and noncompliance with the approvals granted by the Public Art Commission.

Mr. Biggs distributed a comprehensive list of projects that had a value of more than \$250,000 since 2004.

(4-E) Set date for the next Public Art Commission meeting.

The Commission approved the proposed calendar through July by unanimous vote.

STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Staff reported

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

None

COMMISSIONER COMMUNICATIONS:

None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Biggs, Planning Services Manager/Secretary  
Public Art Commission